

CLAIMS:

1. An integrated photo monitor circuit (12), particularly an integrated photo monitor circuit (12) for CD and DVD applications, comprising:
 - a photo detector (14),
 - an amplifier (16) for amplifying an output signal of said photo detector (14),5 and
 - sampling circuitry (18) for sampling an output signal of said amplifier (16).
2. The integrated photo monitor circuit (12) according to claim 1, further comprising an input for receiving timing information (36) used for sampling.
- 10 3. The integrated photo monitor circuit (12) according to claim 1, wherein said integrated photo monitor circuit (12) is an integrated BiCMOS or CMOS circuit.
- 15 4. The integrated photo monitor circuit (12) according to claim 1, wherein said amplifier (16) is a current to voltage amplifier.
5. The integrated photo monitor circuit (12) according to claim 1, which is adapted to be mounted to an optical pickup unit (10).
- 20 6. An optical pickup unit (10), particularly an optical pickup unit (10) for CD and DVD applications, comprising:
 - means (20, 22) for emitting light, and
 - means (12) for generating a sampled feedback signal (40) correlated to the output power of said means (20, 22) for emitting light and intended to be evaluated for25 controlling said output power of said means (20, 22) for emitting light.
7. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 6, further comprising an interface (30) for connecting said optical pickup unit (10) via a flex connection (32) to a

printed circuit board (42) comprising a controller (30) for controlling said output power of said means (20, 22) for emitting light.

8. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 6, further comprising a
5 controller for controlling said output power of said means (20, 22) for emitting light.

9. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 6, wherein said means (12) for generating said sampled feedback signal (40) further comprise a photo detector (14) detecting light emitted by said means (20, 22) for emitting light.

10. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 9, wherein said means (12) for generating a sampled feedback signal (40) further comprise:

a current to voltage amplifier (16) for amplifying an output signal of said photo detector (14); and

15 sampling circuitry (18) for sampling an output signal of said current to voltage amplifier (16).

11. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 9, wherein said means (12) for generating said sampled feedback signal (40) are realized by an integrated photo monitor circuit (12), particularly by an integrated BiCMOS photo monitor circuit (12).

12. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 6, wherein said means (12) for generating said sampled feedback signal (40) receive timing information (36) generated on said optical pickup unit (10) by means of creating a write strategy for writing an optical data carrier (52), wherein said timing information (36) is used for sampling.

13. The optical pickup unit (10) according to claim 6, wherein said means (20, 22) for emitting light comprise a laser diode (20, 22).

30 14. A device for reading and/or writing optical storage media (52), characterized in that it comprises an integrated photo monitor circuit (12) according to any of claims 1 to 5.

15. A device for reading and/or writing optical storage media (52), characterized in that it comprises an optical pickup unit (10) according to any of claims 6 to 13.